INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

In ational Application No
PCT/EP 02/03474

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 B23K1/00

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 B23K

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5 409 158 A (ANGEL) 6 April 1999 (1999-04-06)	1,18
A	column 7, paragraph 2 - paragraph 3; figures 2,3	2-9
A	US 3 412 917 A (OMLEY) 26 November 1968 (1968-11-26) the whole document	1-26
A	US 4 605 154 A (RHODES) 12 August 1986 (1986-08-12) claim 1; figure 1	1,2,18

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

° Special categories of cited documents :

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

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"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

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"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

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Date of the actual completion of the international search	Date of mailing of the international search report
8 October 2002	15/10/2002

Name and mailing address of the ISA	Authorized officer
European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL – 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016	Herbreteau, D

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nformation on patent family members

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Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)		Publication date
US 5409158	A	25-04-1995	US	6378186 B1	30-04-2002
US 3412917	A	26-11-1968	NONE		
US 4605154	A	12-08-1986	NONE		

Docket # E-80045
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